

University Accreditation Results
(Results for Certified Evaluation and Accreditation for university)

Bunkyo Gakuin University



Basic Information of the Institution	
Ownership: Private	Location: Tokyo, Japan
Accreditation Status	
Year of the Review: 2013	
Accreditation Status: accredited (Accreditation Period: April.01.2014 – March.31.2021)	

Certified Evaluation and Accreditation Results for Bunkyo Gakuin University

Notable Strengths

Student support

- It is commendable that Bunkyo Gakuin University (hereafter, the University) has devised measures by which students can help one another grow. For example, since 2011, the University has held an event called the “Teppen (Summit) Forum.” This Forum functions as a site at which second, third, and fourth year students make presentations to first year students to report not only on academic achievements but also on events that helped their personal growth and that yielded good fruit. The event gives students making presentations opportunities to gain a sense of achievement and confidence for future activities, while students listening to the presentations are offered chances to know older students’ experiences that help them come of age.

Social cooperation and contribution

- It is commendable that the University has developed various activities that contribute not only to the local communities but also abroad, and that it has established relationships of mutual trust with local and international communities. In particular, based on its founding spirit, the University and its Informal Community Services Center have taken initiatives to support elderly persons, children with autism, and children with disabilities and special needs. Moreover, a number of childrearing supports, including “Seminars on Raising Children,” have been offered by the Child-Care Support and Research Center, and various kinds of environmental projects, including environmental action projects in collaboration with the City of Fujimino and projects to support agricultural communities in the Philippines, have been conducted by the Environmental Education and Research Center.

Suggestions for Improvement

Educational content, methods, and outcome

- The Graduate School of Business Administration, the Graduate School of Human Studies, and the Graduate School of Health Care Science clearly state the processes for completing their programs and the procedures to grant degrees in their handbooks; however, they do not stipulate policies to grant degrees (i.e., diploma policy) that clearly state learning outcomes attained at the time of requirement fulfillment and program completion. It is expected that the University will determine appropriate degree-granting policies and make them public.
- The Faculty of Business Administration, the Faculty of Human Studies, and the Faculty of Foreign Studies have not set the maximum number of credits which fourth year students can register for per year. This situation should be improved in accordance with the purpose of having a credit system. In addition, the Faculty of Business Administration and the Faculty of Foreign Studies have a system through which students can register for more credits than they need in case they do not earn the maximum number of credits in the previous year. This system should be corrected in accordance with the purpose of having a credit system.

Enrollment

- In the Faculty of Business Administration, the average of the ratios of the last five years of enrolled freshmen to the freshman admission cap is high at 1.25. This should be improved.

Student support

- In order to issue a “Certificate of Anticipated Graduation,” the University requires that students have earned the certain stated (minimum) number of credits. The number is higher than the number of credits students can accumulate through the first, second, and third year of any program. This goes against the registration regulations. This should be improved so that students will not be disadvantaged.

Administration and finance

- There is some disagreement between the stated definition of each committee and its actual function. It is expected that the University correct this immediately. In addition, the definition and function of the Budget Committee has not been formulated. The University is expected to address this immediately.

Internal quality assurance

- The University’s home page does not include information about the degrees earned by faculty members, even though making this public is required by the Regulations for the Implementation of School Education. This situation should be improved.
- The rules that have been implemented for various committees after their rearrangement should be further developed. The University is expected to clarify the responsibility taken by each committee regarding both the system of examination and revision of University activities and the division of labor among the committees.